

**SPECIAL MEETING OF
DIRECTORS OF BELMONT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
Tuesday, June 27, 2006
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ONE TWIN PINES LANE**

CALL TO ORDER 7:40 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Directors Present: Lieberman, Dickenson, Feierbach, Warden, Mathewson

Directors Absent: None

Staff Present: Interim District Manager Cassingham, City Attorney Zafferano, Fire Chief Lowden, Finance Director Fil, District Secretary Cook

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by District Secretary Cook.

PUBLIC/DIRECTORS COMMENTS

Director Dickenson stated that he walked the WaterdogLake area with Fire Marshall Palisi, who noted that there would be some weed abatement done in the region.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval of Resolution 2006-6 Ratifying the Belmont-San Carlos Fire Department Proposed FY 2007 Budget.

ACTION: On a motion by Director Feierbach, seconded by Director Warden, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved by a show of hands.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Report on Proposed Fire Services Assessment and 10-Year Budget Proforma

Finance Director Fil noted that this item continues to be under discussion and consideration at the fire commission. He reviewed the assessment allocation model, and noted that various assessment levels will define the level of service. He noted that each model identified various services and equipment that it could fund. This item will next be addressed by the Belmont-San Carlos Fire Department at a special meeting on June 28th.

In response to Directors questions, Finance Director Fil noted that the one-percent growth calculation was made on an assumption based on addition of homes, units and commercial square footage, based on history. There would be no properties exempt from the assessment.

Director Warden stated that he has spent considerable time reviewing this documentation. There is a need to raise between \$1 million and \$1.5 million dollars, and the residential assessment figure should fall below \$100. The assessment provides long-term stability for the department and enables the purchase of necessary equipment. He noted that each city (San Carlos and Belmont) would likely hold separate assessment ballots at the same time.

Director Feierbach concurred, and stated that public support is needed to pass the assessment. She concurs regarding the \$100 limit. She noted that Pacifica recently passed an assessment with a 74 percent positive vote.

Finance Director Fil described the next steps, including the Public Hearing process for initiating the assessment, which would be held at the July 25th meeting. There will be a continued refinement of calculations. Since the proposed assessment district is large, there is unlikely to be a successful protest.

Director Lieberman stated that a \$96 assessment will net \$1.2 million. The level of service implications has not yet been determined for that amount. There may be a need to make other service reductions.

Director Warden stated that some line items have some flexibility, such as amortization and truck replacement, and the 10 percent recommended reserve could be reduced. He is comfortable with the figures as presented.

In response to Director Lieberman, Finance Director Fil clarified that reserve levels are ultimately approved by the Directors of the Fire Department who are aware of the need for reserves. He also noted that both cities need to agree regarding level of service.

ADJOURNMENT at this time, being 8:10 P.M.

Terri Cook
District Secretary
Meeting audio-recorded and videotaped
Audio Recording 640
Minutes approved 6/25/2006